

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 DPW-01 OES-03 SCA-01

SCS-03 /086 W

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R 211644Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 128

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

JEC PARIS UNN

USUN NEW YORK 175

S E C R E T BERN 0293

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, PFOR, ICRC, VN, VS, SZ

SUBJECT: PRG ISSUE AT LAW OF WAR CONFERENCE

REF: A) BERN 0255 (NOTAL); B) STATE 8673; C) STATE 8672

1. IN FOLLOW-UP TO AMBASSADOR'S CONVERSATION WITH GRABER (REF A), POLCOUNS ON JANUARY 21 CALLED ON PICTET TO ONCE AGAIN STRESS IMPORTANCE OF TWO-THIRDS RULING. PICTET SAID THAT MATTER WAS CONSIDERED HIGHLY SENSITIVE AND GRABER WOULD NOT COMMIT HIMSELF TO TAKING ONE OR ANOTHER POSITION UNTIL HE ACTUALLY HAD TO MAKE A RULING DURING THE CONFERENCE. HE INDICATED THERE HAD BEEN HEAVY LOBBYING ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ISSUE.

2. ON QUESTION OF GOS POSITION IF QUESTION OF INVITING PRG COMES TO VOTE (REF B), PICTET SAID THAT IN LIGHT OF TRADITIONAL SWISS POLICY AND POSITION IT TOOK AT LUCERNE, IT SHOULD COME AS NO GREAT SURPRISE THAT GOS WILL ABSTAIN.

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3. POLCOUNS PROVIDED PICTET WITH BACKGROUND INFORMATION

CONTAINED IN REF C, STRESSING PARALLEL NATURE OF SITUATION DESCRIBED THEREIN AND ONE THAT WILL PERTAIN AT LAW OF WAR CONFERENCE. PICTET EXPRESSED APPRECIATION AND TOOK DOWN INFORMATION WITHOUT COMMENT, EXCEPT TO SAY THAT CASES CITED WERE NOT DEALING WITH QUESTION OF INVITATION TO A CONFERENCE.

4. COMMENT: IT APPARENT THAT SWISS WILL PLAY THEIR HAND CLOSELY TO THEIR CHEST, BUT WE WOULD BE SURPRISED IF GRABER TOOK A HEROIC POSITION AT THE CONFERENCE.
DAVIS

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NNN

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